

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 093478
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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FOR USDEL LOS

FOLLOWING REPEAT LA PAZ 2806 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO LIMA
SANTIAGO APR 07.
QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 2806

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PBOR, PE, BL

SUBJECT: PREYS TREATMENT OF PERUVIAN SEA-OUT LETTERS

1. APRIL 5 EDITIONS OF LA PAZ DAILES GAVE PROMINENT PLAY
TO SEPARATE LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR BOLIVIA'S SEA-OUTLET
ASPIRATIONS FROM PERU'S PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ AND FOREIGN
MINISTER DE LA PUENTE. THE PERUVIAN LETTERS WERE IN REPLY,
RESPECTIVELY, TO RECENT LETTERS FROM PREYIDENT BANZER AND
FOREIGN MINISTER ADRIAZOLA EXPLAINING BOLIVIA'S DECISION TO
BREAK DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH CHILE.

2. THE MORALES BERMUDEZ LETTER, DATED MARCH 29, WAS DELIVERED
TO BANZER PERSONALLY BY PERU'S MINISTER OF HEALTH MAJOR GENERAL
OSCAR DAVILA ZUMATEA ON APRIL 4. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS
SERVICE LATIN, THE LETTER -- THE TEXT OF WHICH WAS RELEASED BY
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THE PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY -- PLEDGED THAT PERU WOULD
"CONTINUE CONTRIBUTING TO THE SOLUTION OF THE JUST BOLIVIAN
ASPIRATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF JURIDICAL MEANS CURRENTLY
IN EFFECT, IN HARMONY WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRIES
INVOLVED, AND IN A MANNER THAT STRENGTHENS PEACE AND FRIEND-
SHIP BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES."

3. LATIN REPORTS THAT THE DE LA PUENTA LETTER, DATED MARCH 23, STATES THAT PERU HAS "MAINTAINED INTACT" ITS INTEREST IN HELPING TO ACHIEVE A SOLUTION TO BOLIVIA'S GEOGRAPHIC ENCLOSURE, ALONG THE LINES REPEATED BY MORALES BERMUDEZ ABOVE. LATIN SPECULATES THAT THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT RELEASED THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTERS IN AN ATTEMPT TO DISCREDIT REPORTS THAT PERU HAD BEEN INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF BOLIVIA'S INTENTIONS TO BREAK TIES WITH CHILE.

4. COMMENT. THE LOCAL PRESS HAS SEIZED UPON THE PERUVIAN LETTERS AS A REAFFIRMATION OF THE JUSTICE OF BOLIVIA'S SEA-OUTLET QUEST. ALTHOUGH THE LETTERS REPRESENT NO CHANGE IN THE PERUVIAN POSITION, THEIR HEAVY PLAY IS YET ANOTHER INDICATION THAT THE SEA ISSUE HAS A HIGH PRIORITY ON BOLIVIAN EMOTIONS AND WILL CONTINUE TO COMMANDEER HEADLINES, PARTICULARLY DURING THE PRE-ELECTORAL PERIOD.
BOEKER UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 12 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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ISecure: 1
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: N/A
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